

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 03051 01 OF 02 131029Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 HA-05 VO-05 CA-01 L-03 H-01
CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /065 W
-----124541 131114Z /23

O R 130927Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8995
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 3051

FROM NAVEZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CVIS, SHUM, TPHY, SE, BU, US, ET
SUBJECT: CASE OF STEFAN MARINOV

REF: STATE 176057

1. ALL SIGNIFICANT CONTACTS WITH MARINOV WERE REPORTED
EITHER BY TELEGRAM OR AIRGRAM TO DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY
BRUSSELS CAN FURNISH ALL REFERENCES.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY BRUSSELS CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION
LASSITER ANSWER QUESTION ON WHAT EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL
SUPPORT MARINOV PRESENTED IN APPLYING FOR US VISA. MY
INVOLVEMENT WITH MARINOV'S US VISA WAS LIMITED TO INFORM-
ING CONSULAR SECTION: (A) MARINOV WOULD APPLY FOR US
VISA; (B) MARINOV WAS A COMMUNIST, AND SO WOULD REQUIRE
AN ADVISORY OPINION FROM DEPARTMENT; (C) MARINOV WAS IN
TOUCH WITH A UNIVERSITY IN THE US RE FINANCIAL SUPPORT;
AND (D) THAT MARINOV TOLD ME THAT THE CZECH AUTHORITIES
HAD CONFISCATED HIS BULGARIAN PASSPORT FOR DEMONSTRATING
AGAINST THE REGIME IN PRAGUE. FOREGOING FOUR POINTS
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 03051 01 OF 02 131029Z

WERE ALSO REPORTED IN TELEGRAMS TO DEPARTMENT IN REGULAR
REPORTING CHANNELS. AS OF MAY 31 WHEN I LEFT BRUSSELS
MARINOV'S TRAVEL PLANS TO THE US WERE STILL PENDING AS
HIS SPONSOR IN THE US HAD NOT WORKED OUT THE FINANCIAL
ASPECTS.

3. RE MARINOV'S OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT. WHAT I

TOLD MARINOV I WOULD DO WITH HIS OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT WAS REPORTED IN THE TELEGRAM WHICH PROVIDED THE TEXT OF THE LETTER TO DEPARTMENT. IF MEMORY SERVES ON THIS POINT, MARINOV TOLD ME HE PLANNED TO RELEASE HIS LETTER TO THE PRESS, AND I TOLD HIM THAT WHILE HE WAS FREE TO PUBLIC WHAT HE CHOSE IN THE WEST, THE BEST WAY TO GET THE USG ASSISTANCE HE WAS THEN SEEKING WAS NOT BY ATTACKING THE USG PUBLICALLY. I ALSO TOLD HIM I WOULD TRANSMIT HIS LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT.

4. THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE ASPECTS TO STEFAN MARINOV WHICH DEPARTMENT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND. FIRST IS THE MARINOV WHO CLAIMS HE WAS SAVAGELY BEATEN AND ARRESTED BY BULGARIAN AUTHORITIES ON EMBASSY PROPERTY IN SOFIA IN 1974. ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT, I TOLD MARINOV THAT HIS CLAIM FOR FINANCIAL COMPENSATION WOULD NOT BE ENTERTAINED BY THE USG. SECOND IS THE MARINOV WHO CLAIMS TO BE THE ONLY BULGARIAN DISSIDENT. A NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS AND AIRGRAMS FROM BRUSSELS REPORTED ON HIS DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES. THIRD IS THE

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 03051 02 OF 02 131033Z
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 3051

FROM NAVEZ

MARINOV WHO IS CONVINCED THAT IN HIS BOOK, EPPUR SI MUOVE, HE HAS MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THEORETICAL PHYSICS. IT WAS TO ENTER INTO CONTACT WITH THE US SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY THAT MARINOV INDICATED HE WANTED TO VISIT THE US, ARRANGEMENTS FOR WHICH HE WAS MAKING ON HIS OWN. OUR EFFORTS TO GET A READING ON THE SCIEN-

TIFIC VALIDITY OF HIS CONCEPTS, POSSIBLE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HIM FOR THE PUBLICATION OF HIS BOOK IF HIS THEORIES WERE OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST, AND REQUESTS TO SEE WHETHER ANYONE IN THE USG SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY WISHED TO MEET HIM IF HE WENT TO THE US WERE THE SUBJECTS OF SEVERAL TELEGRAMS AND AIRGRAMS.

5. DEPARTMENT IS CORRECT IN CALLING MARINOV AN UNUSUAL IF NOT ECCENTRIC PERSON. THE SON OF A DIPLOMAT, A COMMUNIST (OF THE DUBCEK SCHOOL), A PHYSICIST, A MERCHANT SEAMAN, A POET AND WRITER WHO CLAIMS TO SPEAK EIGHT LANGUAGES, A FRIEND OF SAKHAROV'S WHO VISITED HIM IN MOSCOW EARLIER THIS YEAR AND FOR WHOM SAKHAROV WROTE THE INTRODUCTION TO HIS BOOK, A CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 03051 02 OF 02 131033Z

FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN FREEDOM, AN AVOWED ENEMY OF BUREAUCRACY AS AN AFFRONT TO HUMAN DIGNITY AND LIBERTY, MARINOV IS NOT THE PRODUCT OF A COMMON MOLD. HE IS ALSO FRIENDLY, CHARMING, PERSUASIVE, A GOOD SOURCE AND COOPERATIVE IF HANDLED PROPERLY. AS PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION ON HOW TO TREAT HIM IN A BELATED BUT POSSIBLY STILL MOST EFFECTIVE FASHION, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT SOMEONE WITH APPROPRIATE SCIENTIFIC CREDENTIALS MEET WITH HIM AND THEN SEE IF THE US SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY HAS ANY INTEREST IN HIS CONCEPTS. MUCH OF MARINOV'S PUBLICITY-SEEKING MAY BE DIRECTED TO THAT END. HE IS FIRST AND FOREMOST INTERESTED IN HIS SCIENTIFIC CONCEPTS AND TERRIBLY IMPATIENT AT THE DIFFICULTIES HE HAS ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING IN TOUCH WITH OTHER SCIENTISTS IN HIS FIELD. THIS SUGGESTION PRESUPPOSES THAT HE HAS SOMETHING OF SCIENTIFIC VALIDITY TO SAY. FURTHERMORE, TO DEAL WITH MARINOV EFFECTIVELY, ANY USG INTERLOCUTOR SHOULD HAVE A BROAD ENOUGH BACKGROUND IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION, FOR INSTANCE, TO RECOGNIZE HIS BOOKS'S TITLE, EPPUR SI MUOVE.
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